Updating the National System Framework

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- Develop and implement a scientifically based, comprehensive national system of MPAs representing diverse U.S. marine ecosystems, and the Nation’s natural and cultural resources
- Improve MPA coordination, stewardship and effectiveness
- Support, not interfere with, agencies’ independent exercise of their own existing authorities.
Framework Development Process

• 2005-2008
• Extensive Engagement with federal agencies, states, tribes and stakeholders
• Three drafts developed for public comment
Role of MPA FAC in Developing Framework

- Extensive involvement in development of goals, definitions, nomination process, principles
FRAMEWORK FOR THE NATIONAL SYSTEM OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

September 2008
Why Update?

• Reflect implementation experience since November 2008
• Incorporate MPA Federal Advisory Committee recommendations
• Reflect changing ocean policy, science and management context
Major Milestones in National System Development

- Nov 2008 – National System Framework completed
- April 2009 – First 225 “charter” sites accepted into system
- June 2009 – First meeting of MPA System partners
- Today – 437 sites in National System
What’s the Same?

• National System goals and objectives
• MPA definitions
• Nomination process
National System Goals

Natural Heritage

Cultural Heritage

Sustainable Production
What’s Different?

• Shortened and streamlined language
• Separated sections about existing and new MPAs to make it clearer which is being discussed
• Focused more on functions of national system, rather than operational mechanics
• More flexible approach to engaging in MPA activities in regions
• Broader view of cultural resources
• Greater recognition of tribally managed areas as potential members of the National System
Framework Review Process

• Federal Agency Review (through mid-June)
• Public review (90 days; late summer 2014)
  – FAC members will also have an opportunity to review
• Revised/Final draft (late 2014)